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Consumer Price Index, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin — October 2019

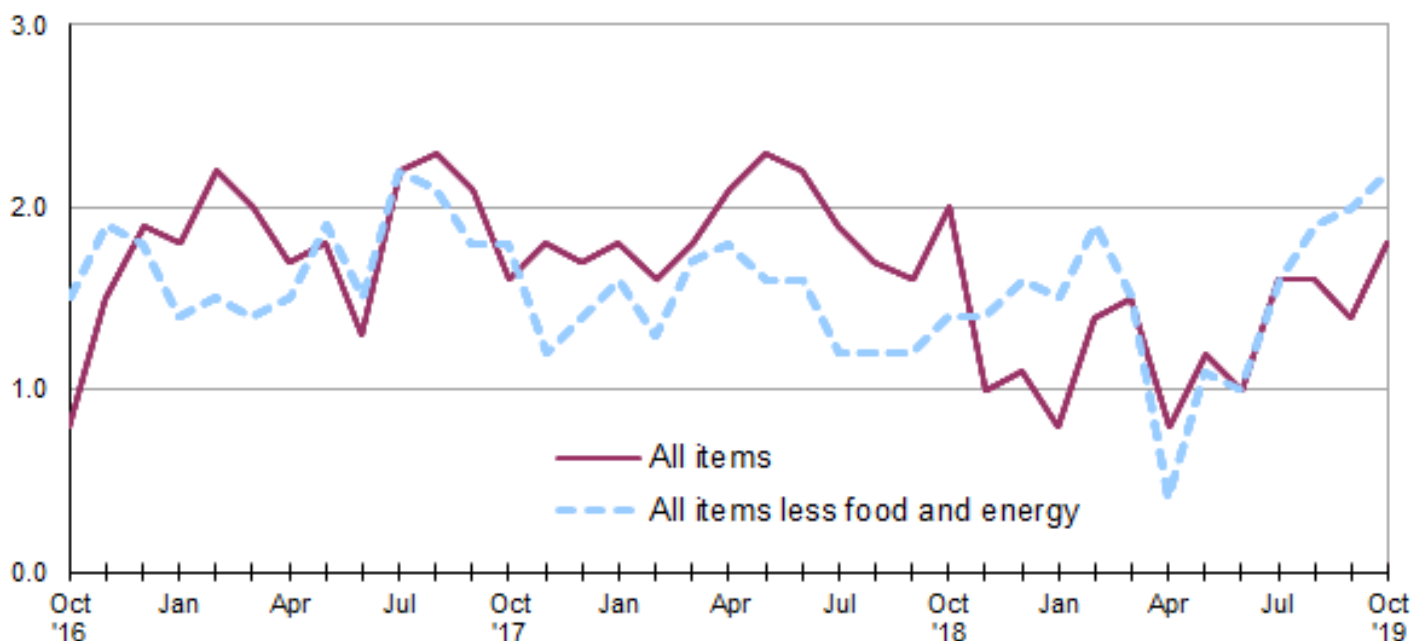
Local prices up 1.8 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Chicago-Naperville-Elgin area increased 0.3 percent in October, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that the index for all items less food and energy rose 0.4 percent, while the energy index decreased 0.1 percent over the month. The food index was essentially unchanged over the month. Within the all items less food and energy category, prices were higher over the month for medical care and motor vehicle insurance. Prices were lower for lodging away from home and apparel. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the Chicago area all items CPI-U increased 1.8 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) Over the year, the all items less food and energy index and the food index rose 2.2 percent and 1.9 percent, respectively. The energy index decreased 2.7 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, October 2016–October 2019

Percent change



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices were unchanged in October. Of the two components within the food index, prices for food at home (groceries) decreased 0.2 percent, while prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) increased 0.2 percent. Within the food at home group, indexes were lower in October for candy and chewing gum, carbonated drinks, and pork chops.

From October 2018 to October 2019, the food index increased 1.9 percent. Over the year, grocery prices rose 1.1 percent, and costs for food away from home rose 2.9 percent.

Energy

The energy index declined 0.1 percent in October. Among the index's components, prices were lower for gasoline (-2.3 percent). Prices were higher for electricity (3.2 percent) and utility (piped) gas service (1.3 percent).

Over the year, the Chicago area energy index fell 2.7 percent. From October 2018 to October 2019, gasoline prices were down 6.0 percent and utility (piped) gas service prices fell 6.2 percent. Electricity prices were 6.6 percent higher over the year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.4 percent in October. Among the index's components, prices were higher over the month for medical care (5.8 percent) and motor vehicle insurance (4.2 percent). Prices were lower for lodging away from home and for apparel (-1.5 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 2.2 percent. Contributing factors were increases in the shelter index (2.8 percent) and the medical care index (6.0 percent).

Table A. Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	-0.2	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.8	0.8	1.8	0.6	0.8
February.....	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.7	0.1	2.2	0.0	1.6	0.6	1.4
March.....	0.7	-0.6	0.1	0.2	-0.1	2.0	0.0	1.8	0.1	1.5
April.....	0.1	-0.9	0.6	0.7	0.4	1.7	0.7	2.1	-0.1	0.8
May.....	0.3	-0.5	0.0	0.3	0.2	1.8	0.4	2.3	0.8	1.2
June.....	0.2	-0.7	0.5	0.7	0.0	1.3	-0.2	2.2	-0.4	1.0
July.....	-0.1	-0.5	-0.8	-0.1	0.0	2.2	-0.3	1.9	0.3	1.6
August.....	0.4	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.3	2.3	0.1	1.7	0.2	1.6
September.....	-0.3	-0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	2.1	0.4	1.6	0.2	1.4
October.....	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.8	-0.4	1.6	0.0	2.0	0.3	1.8
November.....	-0.4	0.2	0.2	1.5	0.4	1.8	-0.6	1.0		
December.....	-0.6	0.0	-0.2	1.9	-0.4	1.7	-0.3	1.1		

The November 2019 Consumer Price Index for Chicago is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, December 11, 2019.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The **Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, Core Based Statistical Area** covered in this release is comprised of Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties in Illinois; Jasper, Lake, Newton, and Porter Counties in Indiana; and Kenosha County in Wisconsin.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Aug. 2019	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Oct. 2018	Aug. 2019	Sep. 2019
Expenditure category						
All items	241.985	242.393	243.236	1.8	0.5	0.3
All items (1967=100)	722.950	724.170	726.689	-	-	-
Food and beverages	253.774	254.636	254.591	1.7	0.3	0.0
Food	253.148	254.249	254.228	1.9	0.4	0.0
Food at home	236.940	238.548	238.017	1.1	0.5	-0.2
Cereals and bakery products	266.783	268.234	268.304	1.6	0.6	0.0
Meats, poultry, fish and eggs	253.974	252.913	253.620	0.9	-0.1	0.3
Dairy and related products	210.922	210.248	211.417	0.7	0.2	0.6
Fruits and vegetables	303.741	315.429	318.276	1.8	4.8	0.9
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1)	198.037	198.611	193.406	1.9	-2.3	-2.6
Other food at home	191.690	191.204	189.463	0.2	-1.2	-0.9
Food away from home	270.406	270.847	271.474	2.9	0.4	0.2
Alcoholic beverages	261.076	258.107	257.690	-1.6	-1.3	-0.2
Housing	254.162	254.878	254.575	2.3	0.2	-0.1
Shelter	322.998	324.837	323.521	2.8	0.2	-0.4
Rent of primary residence(2)	341.859	342.622	342.926	2.7	0.3	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3)	330.093	331.038	331.363	3.0	0.4	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2)(3)	330.093	331.038	331.363	3.0	0.4	0.1
Fuels and utilities	209.312	204.432	208.189	2.0	-0.5	1.8
Household energy	162.049	157.115	160.985	1.4	-0.7	2.5
Energy services(2)	165.266	160.195	164.145	1.4	-0.7	2.5
Electricity(2)	166.672	163.074	168.224	6.6	0.9	3.2
Utility (piped) gas service(2)	149.630	142.855	144.752	-6.2	-3.3	1.3
Household furnishings and operations	88.350	88.852	89.177	-1.0	0.9	0.4
Apparel	87.596	91.865	90.521	4.3	3.3	-1.5
Transportation	187.175	186.423	186.238	-1.4	-0.5	-0.1
Private transportation	184.545	183.615	183.049	-1.3	-0.8	-0.3
New and used motor vehicles(4)	95.717	95.349	94.954	-0.2	-0.8	-0.4
New vehicles(1)	170.321	171.067	170.791	-0.2	0.3	-0.2
Used cars and trucks(1)	277.934	267.052	266.164	2.0	-4.2	-0.3
Motor fuel	252.879	247.120	241.486	-6.0	-4.5	-2.3
Gasoline (all types)	250.320	244.611	238.971	-6.0	-4.5	-2.3
Gasoline, unleaded regular(5)	240.870	235.512	229.953	-6.1	-4.5	-2.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(5)(6)	278.482	270.997	265.299	-5.4	-4.7	-2.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium(5)	276.318	268.770	264.087	-4.5	-4.4	-1.7
Motor vehicle insurance(1)	532.677	531.302	553.612	-0.3	3.9	4.2
Medical care	515.597	507.079	536.308	6.0	4.0	5.8
Recreation(4)	112.512	113.185	112.668	1.8	0.1	-0.5
Education and communication(4)	141.593	141.582	141.584	-0.8	0.0	0.0
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare(1) ..	1,189.801	1,196.376	1,204.640	2.7	1.2	0.7
Other goods and services	406.833	409.974	407.960	2.8	0.3	-0.5
Commodity and service group						
All items	241.985	242.393	243.236	1.8	0.5	0.3
Commodities	169.280	169.791	169.224	0.5	0.0	-0.3
Commodities less food and beverages	127.333	127.685	126.989	-0.3	-0.3	-0.5
Nondurables less food and beverages	176.163	176.737	174.921	-0.2	-0.7	-1.0
Durables	83.655	83.826	83.956	-0.3	0.4	0.2
Services	311.116	311.419	313.643	2.5	0.8	0.7

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Aug. 2019	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Oct. 2018	Aug. 2019	Sep. 2019
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	230.239	231.040	230.637	1.4	0.2	-0.2
All items less shelter	214.563	214.474	216.073	1.3	0.7	0.7
Commodities less food	131.976	132.268	131.567	-0.3	-0.3	-0.5
Nondurables	215.581	216.299	215.235	0.8	-0.2	-0.5
Nondurables less food	181.810	182.231	180.459	-0.3	-0.7	-1.0
Services less rent of shelter(3)	314.212	312.864	319.014	2.2	1.5	2.0
Services less medical care services	295.963	296.916	296.774	1.9	0.3	0.0
Energy	197.746	192.558	192.273	-2.7	-2.8	-0.1
All items less energy	248.173	249.115	250.072	2.2	0.8	0.4
All items less food and energy	248.162	249.081	250.198	2.2	0.8	0.4

Footnotes

(1) Index on a December 1977=100 base.

(2) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(3) Index on a December 1982=100 base.

(4) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

(5) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(6) Index on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available.

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date. Data not seasonally adjusted.